Thursday, *the* *30th July 1942* / *14th Karkadagam 1117*

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at eleven of the clock with the Hon'ble President (A. F. W. DIXON Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.), in the Chair.

Messrs. L. M. Pylee and H. J. Walmesley were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

WORKING OF THE PANCHAYAT COURTS—IMPROVEMENT OF—COMMITTEE REGARDING

21. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether a Committee was appointed by Government to suggest ways and means to improve the working of the Panchayat Courts in the State;

(*b*) it so, what is the date of appointment of the Committee;

(*c*) has the Committee submitted its report;

(*d*) if so, what are their main recommendations?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development)*:

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 25th September 1941.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The Committee's report has been published in the Gazette, dated 11th July 1942. *A copy of it is placed on the Council table for reference.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: When was the report received in the office?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development)*: On the 14th of March.

POPULATION OF CERTAIN VILLAGES—1941 CENSUS

22. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Will Government be pleased to state (*a*) the population of the following villages according to the 1941 census.—

(*a*) (*i*) Melur village;

(*ii*) Muringur Vadakkummuri village;

(*iii*) Kallur Vadakkummuri village;

(*b*) what is the area of each of the above villages?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*:

(*a*) (*i*) Melur village	8,564
(*ii*) Muringur Vadakkummuri village	1,819
(*iii*) Kallur Vadakkummuri village	9,182
(*b*) (*i*) Melur village	5,009 acres
(*ii*) Muringur Vadakkummuri village	689 do.
(*iii*) Kallur Vadakkummuri village	4,358 do.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE WAR PUBLICITY OFFICER—APPOINTMENT OF

23. Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: Will Government kindly state whether they intend creating the post of a personal assistant to the War Publicity Officer?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: No.

STRENGTH OF THE WAR SECTION STAFF OF THE SECRETARIAT AS COMPARED WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS

24. Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: Will Government kindly state the strength of the staff of the War section of the Huzur Secretariat, and the comparative figures of the other sections in the same office?

*Appendix I.

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Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*:

Public and Political Department (War)	..	1 Superintendent and	7 clerks.
Public and Political Department	..	1 Do.	4 do.
Public Works Department	..	1 Do.	4 do.
Finance Department	..	1 Do.	3 do.
Law Department	..	1 Legal Remembrancer 1 Assistant Superintendent and	3 clerks.
Revenue Department	..	1 Superintendent and	5 clerks.
Judicial Department	..	1 Do.	4 do.
Development Department	..	1 Do.	7 do.
Fair Copy Department	..	1 Do.	5 do.

PALACE GROUNDS, ERNAKULAM—CLOSING OF—TO THE PUBLIC

25. Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: Will Government be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to close the Ernakulam Palace Grounds for the use of the public?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Yes.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: May I know, Sir, the reasons that induced the Government to contemplate the closing of the Ernakulam Palace Grounds for the use of the public?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: The Government have not contemplated anything like that. I only said there was a proposal to that effect from the Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: May I know the reasons for that proposal?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: There was an official recommendation made by me that it may be placed exclusively at the disposal of the students.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: Is it the idea of the Government to have the Ernakulam Palace Grounds for the exclusive use of the students?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: The Government are now examining that proposal.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi)*: Are there any other places for the use of the Public in Ernakulam other than this Palace Ground?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: A committee has been recently constituted for the purpose of ascertaining the availability of playgrounds both here, in Mattancheri and in Trichur. The Committee has not yet started its work. I expect that very soon they will be under way and we can know where we are precisely. I am sure that the Government will be pleased to see that some sort of ground is provided for the use of the public also.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: May I know for the use of the population of which school this Ernakulam Palace Ground is intended?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: The idea originally was to pool all our resources and to set apart playgrounds in different parts of the town for different schools.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: So far as this Palace Ground is concerned to whom is that to be allotted?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: No decision has been reached. My proposal was that it may be given to the nearest school, the Rama Varma High School.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Is this the Durbar Hall Ground.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: From whom did this proposal emanate?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: From the Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi)*: Is it within the powers of the Committee appointed to find out the suitable sites for play grounds to see whether there are play grounds for the public also.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: Normally what a committee like this would do is to see that there are playgrounds for the students. They should also reserve a certain amount of sites for the recreation of the public.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Is it not a fact that foreign players and local players have matches there?

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